

WARNING!!

THIS UNIVERSITY INVESTS IN APARTHEID

As of 1985, the University of Chicago's holdings in corporations that do business in South Africa totalled 133 million dollars. Corporations like Mobil, General Motors, Parker Pen, and Xerox continue to bolster the white racist regime in South Africa by paying taxes and providing vital oil and technology to the government. The University of Chicago Board of Trustees has unanimously voted to continue investing in these corporations despite a rising tide of pressure for divestment locally and across the nation. Nationwide, over one hundred colleges and universities have committed themselves to selling over 500 million dollars worth of "blood stocks." Columbia, Yale, Brown, the University of California, and six of the Big Ten schools have already divested at least partially. Harvard itself has already sold over \$50 million worth of stocks in corporations that profit from the South African system of institutionalized racism. The University of Chicago refuses to listen to pleas for divestment from progressive organizations like Jesse Jackson's Operation PUSH, whose national headquarters is not ten blocks away from the Administration Building's front door. Students at the University, refusing to see their tuition dollars go to support criminal abuse of human rights in South Africa, keep pouring on the demands for divestment, but the University remains steadfast in its contention that it is not the University's place to make a "political" statement, even against such a morally reprehensible system as apartheid.

Further and more deepseated proof of the University of Chicago's support of apartheid comes from its long history of racist policies toward its own students, staff, and surrounding community. The University's urban renewal programs of the 1950's displaced thousands of Black residents by clearing block after block of housing to make way for more expensive townhouses or condominiums, or strips of vacant land meant as a buffer zone between the Black and White communities. Black undergraduate enrollment remains at the shamefully-low level of 2.5% of the student body in a city that is over 40% Black. Those few Black students at the University are regularly harrassed by the University's private security forces which demand that Black students present their student I.D.'s during checks of the campus and Hyde Park. In its most recent display of racist policy, the Universtiy in March of this year fired its entire custodial staff, which was then re-hired by a custodial contracting company which cut pay by \$2.10 per hour for the predominantly Black and Hispanic custodians. Support for apartheid South Africa is clearly not the only manifestation of racism within the University of Chicago.

As you decide what college to enroll in this fall, we urge you to consider whether you want your tuition dollars to support apartheid in South Africa and racism at home. If you do return to the University of Chicago as a student in September, we hope that you will join the movement to end racist policies here at the University.

A message from the Action Committee for a Free South Africa.